

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BRUSSE 02544 081917 Z

73

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 CAB-09 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 FAA-00 L-03 SS-15 NSC-10 RSR-01

/086 W

----- 007283

R 081757 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7466

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BRUSSELS 2544

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: ETRN, BE

SUBJECT: CIVAIR: NEW PAN AM SCHEDULE

REF: STATE 85116

1. IN ACCORDANCE WITH INSTRUCTIONS WE CALLED ON FONMIN DIRECTOR TRANSPORTATION PERDIEUS ON MAY 8 TO PRESS FOR BELGIAN RESPONSE TO LATEST USG ARGUMENTATION (STATE 78260). PERDIEUS SAID FORMAL GOB REPLY WILL BE FORTHCOMING FOLLOWING FOREIGN MINISTRY-MINISTRY TRANSPORTATION MEETING SCHEDULED FOR MAY 11. HOWEVER, HE WAS CONVINCED THAT DECISION WILL NOT BE CHANGED; THAT GOB WILL CONTINUE TO REFUSE PAA AUTHORITY FLY BRUSSELS- MOSCOW/ WARSAW ON GROUNDS SUCH BEYOND RIGHTS NOT INCLUDED IN EXISTING US-BELGIAN CIVAIR BILATERAL.

2. PERDIEUS COMMENTED THAT CLEAR DIFFERENCE OF OPINION EXISTS OVER INTERPRETATION OF BILATERAL. WHILE USG MAY BELIEVE BILATERAL PROVIDES THIS BEYOND RIGHT GOB DOES NOT AND WILL ACCORDINGLY REFUSE PAA AUTHORIZATION. ONLY WAY TO DEAL WITH THIS TYPE CONTROVERSY IS OFFICIAL CONSULTATION AS CALLED FOR BY BILATERAL AGREEMENT. AS USG IS PARTY WISHING INAGURATE NEW SERVICE HE THOUGHT IT UP TO USG TO REQUEST CONSULTATION. GOB PREPARED AT US CONVENIENCE PARTICIPATE THEREIN.

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3. AT THIS POINT PERDIEUS MENTIONED THAT GOB IN NO WAY ATTEMPTING TO USE PAA REQUEST AS BARGAINING POINT INTENDED TO ADVANCE GOB'S LONG STANDING DESIRE OBTAIN SECOND LANDING POINT IN US. HE SAID THAT IF US WISHED HOLD CONSULTATION IT SHOULD BE UNDERSTOOD BY BOTH PARTIES THAT SUBJECT WOULD BE DIFFERING VIEW OF EXISTING RIGHTS AND NOT RPT NOT ANY QUESTION OF NEW OR ADDITIONAL RIGHTS. HE ADDED THAT IN HIS VIEW ANY CONSULTATION ON THIS QUESTION SHOULD BE LED BY MINISTRY/ TRANSPORTATION/ CAB (I. E. " TECHNICAL") WITH FOREIGN MINISTRY REPS PARTICPATING.

4. REFERRING SPECIFICALLY TO LATEST USG ARGUMENTATION PERDIEUS POINTED OUT (A) DOCUMENT WE QUOTED FROM NOT PART OF ANY OFFICIAL, AGREED MINUTES OR RECORDS AND (B) USG AT TIME HAD REFUSED TO ACCEPT IT AS VALID DESCRIPTION OF STATE OF AFFAIRS. IN ANY CASE IT DID NOT ALTER OPINION OF GOB THAT NEW PAA SCHEDULE WOULD EXCEED RIGHTS GRANTED IN BILATERAL.

5. EMBOFF DISCUSSED CURRENT IMPASSE WITH SENIOR SABENA OFFICIAL MAY 7 WHO PREDICTED (IN DETAIL) ESSENCE OF PERDIEUS' STATEMENTS MADE FOLLOWING DAY. SABENA REP INDICATED THAT MAJORITY OPINION IN BELGIAN CIVAIR CIRCLES WAS THAT PROPOSED PAA SERVICE DOES EXCEED BILATERAL TERMS BUT MANY DOUBTED WISDOM OF REFUSING PAA REQUEST ON GENERAL GROUNDS VALUE OF PROPOSED SERVICE LIMITED AND OF LITTLE PERTINENCE TO SABENA OPERATIONS. HOWEVER, HE POINTED OUT THAT GOB IN NEGOTIATION WITH USSR OVER SABENA PARTICIPATION IN BRUSSELS- MOSCOW SERVICE. BELGIANS WANT ONCE WEEKLY SERVICE WITH RECEIPTS POOLED WITH AEROFLOT'S TWICE WEEKLY OPERATION OR RESTRICTION OF AEROFLOT TO ONCE WEEKLY WITHOUT RECEIPT POOLING. GOB OFFICIALS BELIEVE GRANTING PAA REQUEST AT THIS TIME WOULD COMPLICATE THESE NEGOTIATIONS.

6. COMMENT: IT APPEARS LIKELY THAT GOB WILL STICK BY EARLIER REFUSAL TO PERMIT PAA FLY BRUSSELS- MOSCOW/ WARSAW. MEANWHILE, EMBASSY WILL PURSUE MATTER AT MORE SENIOR FONMIN LEVELS. STRAUSZ- HUPE

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a
*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
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Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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30 JUN 2005

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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
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Subject: CIVAIR: NEW PAN AM SCHEDULE
TAGS: ETRN, BE, US, ETRN, PAN AM
To: EB
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